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IT NEWS

English



16.05.2005 / Also homeland security:

TV Signals and Your Supply Chain

Government agencies faced by homeland security challenges as well as supply chain management companies that want to track their assets and those of their customers can utilize the unmodified television signals from a Silicon Valley startup.

Rosum's technology tracks mobile devices in urban areas and indoors, where Global Positioning System (GPS) and assisted GPS solutions often fail. The technology uses high-power, high-bandwidth signals broadcast by analog or digital television stations instead of signals from the GPS satellite to determine position. Not only do these television signals already cover urban areas, they also penetrate deep into buildings and structures. These characteristics, combined with the global coverage of GPS, are expected to provide a universal and reliable method of determining location.

The first device using Rosum's technology is in the prototype stage and navigation products will make their first appearance next year. Rosum chief executive Skip Speaks said the company's advanced positioning technology solves a major shortcoming of GPS positioning devices, "locating high value assets indoors and in urban canyons. "Our customers will use our technology to serve the needs of government agencies and commercial enterprises that have a need to track and locate people and assets inside buildings and other locations where the performance of the GPS system is compromised," he said. The company, which intends to license and build hardware and software, is backed by investors that include Charles River Ventures, Motorola, KTB Ventures and Steamboat Ventures.

Source: EDITTECH INTERNATIONAL

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